NEW YORK HERALD

BROADWAY AND ANN STREET.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT,
PROPRIETOR.

Volume XXXVII.....No. 95

AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE, Twenty-fourth street.—ARTICLE 47.

OLYMPIC THEATRE, Broadway.—THE BALLET PANTOMIME OF HUMPTY DUMPTY.

BOOTH'S THEATRE, Twenty-third st., corner Sixth av.—THE HUNCHBACK.

WALLACK'S THEATRE, Broadway and 13th street.—THE VETERAN.

LINA EDWIN'S THEATRE, 720 Broadway.—THE PALACE OF TRUTH.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE, corner of 8th av. and 23d st.—LALLA ROOKH.

NIBLO'S GARDEN, Broadway, between Prince and Houston sts.—POLL AND PARTNER JOE.

WOOD'S MUSEUM, Broadway, corner 13th st.—Performances afternoon and evening—HUNTED DOWN.

ST. JAMES' THEATRE, Twenty-eighth street and Broadway.—THE NEW HIBERNICON.

BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery.—SALLY SMART—OUT OF THE FIRE.

MRS. F. B. CONWAY'S BROOKLYN THEATRE.—FROU-FROU.

THEATRE COMIQUE, 514 Broadway.—COMIC VOCALISMS, NEGRO ACTS, &C.—JULIUS THE SEIZER. Matinee.

UNION SQUARE THEATRE, Fourteenth st. and Broadway.—NEGRO ACTS—BURLESQUE, BALLET, &C.

TONY PASTOR'S OPERA HOUSE, No. 201 Bowery.—NEGRO ECCENTRICITIES, BURLESQUES, &C.

BRYANT'S NEW OPERA HOUSE, 23d st., between 6th and 7th avs.—BRYANT'S MINSTRELS.

THIRTY-FOURTH STREET THEATRE, near Third avenue.—VARIETY ENTERTAINMENT.

SAN FRANCISCO MINSTREL HALL, 585 Broadway.—THE SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS.

NEW YORK CIRCUS, Fourteenth street.—SCENES IN THE RING, ACROBATS, &C.

NEW YORK MUSEUM OF ANATOMY, 618 Broadway.—SCIENCE AND ART.

TRIPLE SHEET.

New York, Thursday, April 4, 1872.

CONTENTS OF TO-DAY'S HERALD.

THE ALABAMA CLAIMS BILL—ENGLISH ESTIMATE OF THE AMERICAN CHARGES AND THE TOTAL.—A London evening newspaper, which enjoys the reputation of being pretty correctly informed as to the current and purport of the Ministerialist ideas of the members of the Queen's government, announced in its issue yesterday that it is alleged generally in London that the American bill of damages for losses sustained by the operations of the Alabama and other privateers built or fitted out in British waters amounts to three hundred and forty millions of dollars, the aggregates of the items of charge being classed under two separate heads thus:—$140,000,000 for losses sustained from the destruction of American ships and cargoes by privateer vessels built or fitted out in English waters, and $200,000,000 for expenses incurred by the Washington government in pursuing the privateers. It is stated, further, that these figures form part of the American case before the Geneva Arbitration Court. The writer, evidently, professes to be astounded at the amount of the grand total, but he does not intimate that England is inclined to make any offer of settlement or for the discharge of the full bill. In this may be found the *laches* of the English position all through from the beginning. John Bull is kept in a state of continual irritation relative to his liability to pay a terribly heavy bill; but we have not seen at any time where he has been advised to go manfully forward and inquire of the creditor what abatement he will make in the original demand and how much he will take in a round sum for a receipt in full. Here is where the British press has neglected its plain duty towards its venerable client, even during the penitential season of the past Lent, and thus permitted Mr. Bull to sit down to his Easter Day dinner unshriven of his many and weighty sins against the American democracy.

OUR REFORM LEGISLATURE was born to trouble. Mrs. Wilbour, an irreclaimable advocate of petticoat government, invaded the Judiciary Committee of the Assembly yesterday and utterly demoralized that august body. Furbelowed and frilled, she cocked her cap at the unfortunate chairman and demanded a vote. Few legislators can resist a violent female under these circumstances, and we are not surprised, therefore, to learn that two nervous members of the committee surrendered at discretion. A woman's rights woman, with her chignon up, is ordinarily a terrible apparition. But Mrs. Wilbour is deserving of a patient hearing. She repudiates the pestilent female advocates of evil who afflict this city, and entertains a holy and wholesome respect for the marriage state. Any woman who is fond of babies ought to be allowed to vote if she has time to do so.

The Three Jobs of the Forty-Second Congress—Giving Everybody Everything.

It will be remembered that Mr. Tittlebat Titmouse was elected to Parliament partly on account of his spirited advocacy of the famous "Bill for Giving Everybody Everything." A bill of a similar kind would hardly satisfy our land-grabbers and steamship subsidy rings, but the grotesqueness of Titmouse's arguments is one of the best weapons which can be used against the thieves and corruptionists at Washington. In looking over the debates on the Bayfield and St. Croix bill we find the point very tersely put by Mr. Cox, who said, "I would be in favor of all subsidies provided everybody got a subsidy." Mr. Cox is well known as an experienced legislator. He is a close student, and as an exponent of political economy according to the free trade school he has no equal in Congress. Accident as well as fitness makes him the representative and the champion of the shipping interests of New York. His district is the home of the merchants and shippers who believe in a free registry law and free ships. In one of his jocose moods he must have studied Mr. Titmouse's astonishing economic principles, and we should not be surprised if he introduced a measure into Congress for giving everybody a subsidy. If he does we shall support it. There is no principle so fair, so wide in its influence or so universal in its application as the great principle of giving everybody everything. When everybody gets a subsidy everybody will be satisfied, and there will be no work left for the lobby.

In another part of to-day's HERALD we print a letter from our Washington correspondent on the three great jobs of the session—the Bayfield and St. Croix bill, the Goat Island scheme and the Pacific Mail subsidy. It is a faithful transcript from a record from which there is no appeal—a leaf from history which cannot be blotted out. The great battles of the lobby on the floor of the House are vividly portrayed without favor and without fear, and it is shown how desperate was the contest of dishonesty with honesty. It is a story full of instruction and full of warning. The measures by which powerful corporations sought to grow rich at the expense of the people were defeated one after the other; but if one of them had succeeded there can be little doubt that the success of one would have been the triumph of all. The result would have been the public domain squandered without regard to the rights of settlers and the Treasury depleted, that a few persons might sail ships at the expense of every man, woman and child in the country. Nor would this have been the only result. Other corporations were waiting to see the success of these battles to come forward with other demands. If the Bayfield and St. Croix job had been pushed through the House the Forty-second Congress would have become the most corrupt in history. Not only would other railroads have sought and obtained other lands and other steamship companies have come claiming subsidies which their hired attorneys on the floors of Congress could easily have gained for them by showing that to give them was for the benefit of commerce, but jobs of every kind would have claimed recognition and the lobby revelled in delight. There would have been no end to the corruption and fraud and wrong-doing of the national legislature. Even now two, and perhaps all, of the three great jobs which our correspondent details may succeed. The Senate has set its face like flint in favor of the evils which were crushed in the House. It may still perpetrate the crimes which the House refused to commit. It is a body full of weak but wicked men. Its former dignity in some degree and a semblance of its former glory still cling to it, but its virtue and worth have departed. We tremble to name the men who sit in the chairs once filled by American statesmen, or who come from the newly organized and the reorganized States. The years of revolution have been years of revolution even here, and, strange to say, the House of Representatives, once filled with turbulent and reckless spirits, has become our conservative legislative body, caring for the interests of the whole country and guarding the public domain and the public treasure. But the men of the Senate cannot betray the interests of the people with impunity, and, sooner or later, unfaithful Senators will learn that the country may overlook weakness, but that it will not forgive wickedness.

The warning cry of the hour is, "Look to the Senate!" It is filled with men of doubtful character and without reputation. These must be watched and their conduct held up to public scrutiny, and, wherein it is wrong, to public scorn. In two of the jobs the legislative history of which our correspondent gives the Senate differs with the House and differs in favor of giving away the public lands and the public treasure. If everybody got a subsidy the case might be different. Then everybody would be benefited, and not merely a favored few. But everybody does not get a subsidy, and the "Bill for Giving Everybody Everything" has not yet been discussed in its broader aspects. Now a few people want everything at the expense of everybody. Mr. Cox has not yet framed his measure for giving all a subsidy. In the jobs of which we are speaking, and those which are sure to follow the success of these, the many would be compelled to pay for the benefit of the few. It is to this that we object. While we are in favor of giving all a subsidy, we are not willing to tax everybody to give everything to the rich and powerful corporations which are crushing liberty and overriding the people.

In that wonderful history of the wretched little Titmouse from which Mr. Cox must have derived his idea of giving everybody a subsidy there are some excellent portraits of Washington "statesmen." Mr. O'Gibbet is one and poor old Lord Dredlington another. The effete Lord, it will be remembered, was the father-in-law of Titmouse "for the benefit of his family;" but if Titmouse was the statesman we take him for—though it is possible we may be mistaken—he and Dredlington could not have been entirely in accord on the "bill for giving everybody everything." Dredlington thought the man who discovered how the vessels of the Royal Navy might gather gunpowder and fresh water from the sea they were sailing over ought to have had a subsidy for his discovery. Titmouse being in favor of giving everybody everything could only have favored the subsidy provided all men got a subsidy. Just here is the difficulty. It is not right to rob everybody that everybody may be rich any more than it is right to rob everybody that somebody may prosper. The only true policy is to let each man pursue his own business in his own way and not to tax the many in behalf of the few. This will be in effect giving everybody everything, and this is what we understood Mr. Cox to mean when he said he would be in favor of all subsidies provided everybody got a subsidy.

All this has a moral deeper and more important than at first appears. It is easy to talk of liberality with the public treasure for the benefit of commerce, but it is not so easy to give everybody everything. We are waiting for somebody to introduce a measure for all subsidies provided everybody gets a subsidy; but in the meantime Congress must not give away any more lands or any more money. Let Senators learn this or take the consequences of squandering the public domain and the public treasure.

Disraeli's Speech in Manchester—The Monarchy, the Church, the Aristocracy and the Coast.

Mr. Disraeli delivered his speech to the conservatives of Manchester yesterday evening at a meeting assembled in Free Trade Hall. The room was crowded to its very utmost capacity of accommodation. The veteran politician and parliamentist was fully equal to the occasion. It may be said, indeed, that he appeared in a right royal mood and with all the imperialisms of his name and family full upon him. He proclaimed his party the defenders of the constitution, of the faith as it is expounded in the Church of the State, of the perpetuity of property by hereditary transmission and of the aristocratic branch of the Legislature. "We have assembled here," said the leader of the opposition, "to proclaim our resolution to uphold the constitution of the kingdom, to talk of a programme for future action which will not despoil churches nor plunder landlords, but for the interests of the great body of the people." The ex-Premier and ex-Chancellor of the Exchequer went on from this point to speak in defence of the British monarchy. He alleged that the "blessings" which Englishmen now enjoy have come to them from the throne system of government, but pointed out, as a fact, that the sovereign does not exercise a real influence on the course of the administration of the government. The monarchy is, however, a standpoint for popular rally in times of difficulty and danger. The British Crown system costs less than that of any other nation. The expense of the sovereignty of the United States, which embraces Congress and the State Legislatures, as well as the Executive, is, in pounds sterling, double in amount the total of the English civil list. Mr. Disraeli closed with a vindication of the British aristocracy and a defence of the House of Lords as an essential element of the government. The great orator is a man of vast experience. He is also a bold one. Here we find him in Manchester, the very fountainhead and centre of the democratic movement in England, holding forth to his political supporters in advocacy of the Crown and its aristocratic contingents as contrasted with the republicanism of reform as it has been eliminated from the measure of the year 1832 by the Russell-Palmerston-Gladstone party. Mr. Disraeli has, no doubt, calculated his forces and power, and perceives, as he has acknowledged, that the "wave is rising" against Gladstone, who will, no doubt, retort on him in reply that the instincts of a royal race are inextinguishable, and the fervor and faith and tithings and splendors of a grand and ancient Church never to be forgotten.

The Difficulty Between the Senate and House on the Tariff and Tax Question.

The House of Representatives seems to be indignant at the Senate for encroaching upon its prerogative in the matter of initiating legislation with regard to revenue measures and taxation. The adoption of the resolution offered by Mr. Dawes on Monday, with only nine votes against it, declaring that the bill lately passed by the Senate reducing taxation and tariff duties, as a substitute for a House bill, is in conflict with the true intent and meaning of that clause of the constitution which requires that all bills for raising revenue shall originate in the House of Representatives, shows that the House is determined to maintain its assumed privilege. The Senate bill, or amended bill, to reduce taxation and tariff duties, over which the country was rejoicing, has therefore been laid on the table and the Senate notified of the fact. Now, while it may be proper for the House to jealously guard its constitutional prerogatives, the Senate has certainly the power of amending revenue measures, and though the Senate may in this case have substituted a sweeping measure of revenue reform, there appears to be more quibbling in the objection raised than a desire to promote the public welfare. As, however, the House has laid the Senate bill on the table, we hope that body will not fail to give the country one as good, or better, without delay. A game of shuttlecock on this important question between the two houses, so that nothing would be done this session, would be disgraceful and a great disappointment to the people. Was the Senate in earnest when it passed the bill removing fifty to sixty millions of taxation? Will the House go as far, or further, in removing the burdens of the people? If it be so, this constitutional quibble or objection need not stand in the way of harmonious action. Let the House take the initiative and pass a measure at once embracing the reforms already acted upon by the Senate, or greater ones, even, and this will test the sincerity of the Senate. The people care little how relief from taxation may come so that it fails not to come. There should be neither legislative pride nor assumption on this important matter. The interests of the people and welfare of the nation should overrule all other considerations.

THE PEOPLE OF THE DOMINION OF CANADA will look upon the last Governor General of the territory in the person of Lord Dufferin, the successor of Lord Lisgar. So says a London newspaper. Good for the men of the Dominion. The republic of the United States can take care of all the citizens of the American Continent.

The Great Earth Shocks in California—A New Theory of Earthquakes and Their Meteorologic Origin.

The great earthquake in California is one of the most remarkable of its kind on record. The telegraphic intelligence of its persistent and protracted shocks—more than a thousand in number—reveal no ordinary disturbance in the rocks on which nature has built one of the fairest sections of our country. Without repeating the details of the force and magnitude of the great terrestrial convulsion, which have been given in our numerous telegrams, it is of the highest interest and moment to point out some of the instructive and significant facts and inferences they suggest.

The whole subject of earthquakes has long baffled philosophic inquiry, and as yet we are but groping our way into the obscure mysteries of their phenomena. Difficult and occult as the subject may be, it is of profound importance; for, as Darwin has well said, and as our California experience should teach us, "the time will come when geologists will consider the quiescence of the terrestrial crust through a long period of its history as improbable as an absolute calm in the atmosphere during a whole season of the year." The great physicist might have added that the human family is almost as much concerned in divining the great earthquake phenomena as in foreseeing those of the weather. It is clearly proven by the statistics bearing on this subject that at least forty earthquakes per annum, or one in every nine days, are felt on the Continent of Europe and the islands immediately adjacent.

California, with its splendid climatic advantages, is peculiarly exposed to the more gentle and moderate convulsions. It lies in the northeastern quadrant of that great "circle of fire" which girdles the entire Pacific with its volcanic lights and furnaces. Coming up from Chile, along the western coast of South America, in the Andes, these lofty natural lighthouses serve the purposes of the mariner by night. They run through Central America and reappear in Mexico, all along the axial lines of the Cascades, the Sierra Nevada and the Rocky Mountains; their evidences appear also in the Aleutian Islands and in Japan, and extend southward into the East Indies, Australia, and thence to the South Shetland Islands and Patagonia, completing the circuit. If many of these great laboratories of nature seem extinct we must remember they may only resemble Vesuvius, which, when it woke up to engulf Pompeii and Herculaneum, had been resting for many years and was regarded by the Romans as a lifeless pyramid.

But the most important problem of earthquakes recently propounded is the cause and origin of the disastrous convulsions. The old theory that they were due to Plutonic forces solely, or to agitations of the sea of liquid fire supposed to be rolling its incandescent billows beneath our feet, seems to have completely broken down, and this is not to be regretted, since we can never afford to pierce the bowels of the earth and gauge or weigh these subterranean powers. The more probable and plausible solution of the mystery is that the earthquake is intimately associated with atmospheric and cyclonic disturbances. In the great hurricane at Barbados, in 1780, an earthquake raged in conjunction with the tempest and obtained its greatest severity after the gale had partially passed away. In the Tobago hurricane of 1847 the earthquake preceded the storm; but so common is the coincidence between cyclones and earthquakes in tropical countries that the almost universal belief exists that they are causally connected. It is certainly evidence that no philosophic mind can ignore that from time immemorial the natives of earthquake-ravaged countries assert that the commotions are simultaneous with certain meteorological conditions, such as the rainy seasons, numerous storms, and warm, damp winds. In 1834 Professor Merian, of France, having classified, according to their seasonal occurrences, one hundred and eighteen earthquakes which took place at Basle and in the surrounding country, ascertained, to the surprise of the whole scientific world, that these phenomena are much more frequent in winter than in summer. This fact, which was at first rejected by many savans, has since been indubitably confirmed by the researches of other distinguished physicists, such as Alexis Perrey and Otto Volger. By comparing the four months of May, June, July and August with December, January, February and March, it is shown that the shocks are three times as numerous in the second or winter period as in the first. We have also another link of causality in the additional fact that the shocks are felt more frequently at night than in the day, and this holds good in all parts of the year, and in all the centres and regions of earthquakes. In Switzerland, out of five hundred and two earth shocks, the date and hour of which were recorded, only one hundred and eighty-two occurred between six o'clock A. M. and six P. M., while between sunset and sunrise three hundred and twenty disturbances convulsed the earth—a result not to be wondered at when we reflect that every day or period of diurnal rotation of the globe, in its rains, storms and other meteorological features, is to be regarded as a condensed history or epitome of the whole year.

The inference to be drawn in favor of the view here asserted (viz., that earthquakes are really connected with the great meteorologic changes induced by the sun), is powerfully corroborated by the view expressed by the HERALD in its article of the 25th ult., on "Cosmical Meteorology," in which it was proved that our planet passes under periodical waves of heat and cold, of ten or eleven years' duration, giving us sometimes phenomenal cold winters, like the present, or phenomenal warm winters. In that article, we quoted the authority of the Astronomer Royal of Scotland, and many other physicists, to show that this winter was one of the abnormally cold winters, because our planet is now absolutely and everywhere colder than it has been for ten years—the time of the cycle. It is very plain that if earthquakes are more frequent in night than in daytime, and also in the winter than in the summer season, we should expect and predict that, during this year, as during last year—which may be called the earth's cosmical, or cold winter—the frightful upheavals and quiverings of its solid crust would be most frequent and most dangerous. What we have said of this, as the coldest winter, was predicted a year ago by the Astronomer Royal of Scotland, Professor C. Piazzi Smith.

The investigation is one of intense practical and popular interest, and we throw out these facts as "thoughts for the thoughtful," and as matters for scientific research. What if, after all the floundering mistakes of scientific men for centuries in trying to account for the most dreadful of all nature's freaks and violences, it should be found that the reasoning of the HERALD is correct? In this view our national weather observations and meteorological researches assume new and profounder importance. It is not impossible nor improbable that when our weather science is pushed forward and partially perfected in some of its deductions, the devastating earthquake, no less than the ravaging tornado and cyclone, may soon become a matter of scientific prevision and preannouncement.

The Spanish Elections.

Our news despatches from Spain this morning are more than ordinarily interesting. The elections, from the government standpoint, are making satisfactory progress. The prospects of the opposition do not look so bright as at one time they did. The members of the Electoral College have been chosen, and so far as the figures reported warrant us to come to any conclusion, the result must be regarded as a gain to the government. It is believed that five hundred and fifty Presidents and two thousand one hundred and sixty-two Secretaries of Electoral Colleges have been elected in the government interest. The opposition, or what is called the coalition, claims two hundred and seventy-two Presidents and one thousand two hundred and sixty-one Secretaries. The city of Madrid was carried by the coalitionists; but the ministerialists feel emboldened to conclude that in the lower branch of the Cortes they must have at least two hundred and seventy Deputies.

So far as the elections have progressed they justify the conclusion which we expressed some days ago—that there was a fair prospect of a government victory. The Electoral College by an enormous majority is on the government side. Five hundred and fifty Presidents, as against two hundred and seventy-two, and two thousand one hundred and sixty-two Secretaries, as against one thousand two hundred and sixty-one, make the matter so plain that even doubters must begin to believe. If the elections turn out as these figures indicate it will not be difficult for Amadeus to maintain his position and to put some vigor into the government machine. He can count with safety on Serrano and the unionists. He can count also with safety on Sagasta and his section of the progressists. These two parties represent the pith and marrow of Spain. Against them are arrayed the Zorilla section of the progressists, the republicans, the Carlists, the Alphonsists and those who adhere to the banner of the Duke of Montpensier, an apparently formidable band. The opposition band, however, when carefully examined, will be found more formidable in seeming than in reality. It is notorious that although Zorilla is opposed to Sagasta he is not unfriendly towards the King, and he is pledged to the constitution of 1869. It is believed by some that he and his party have so broken with the Sagastinos that an alliance with them and the republicans is all but certain. Against this opinion we must put the words of Zorilla himself, who only a few days ago declared that he and his party stood by the King and the constitution of 1869. It is difficult to see how a united, vigorous opposition could be composed of such heterogeneous materials as Carlists, Alphonsists, Montpensierists and republicans. The anti-government party in the next Cortes will no doubt be numerous, but as it will be a party not united, it will and must be weak. As we have said before, if the returns give the government two hundred and seventy Deputies in the lower house there will be no revolution in Spain—at least not for the present.

At the same time we would not have it thought that Spain has yet found an end to her political troubles. The disaffected parties are numerous and powerful. Each party is more bent on pushing its own interests than in advancing the interests of their common country. Party fighting will continue; local insurrections may take place; but as the strongest combination must rule the presumption is that Amadeus will yet have a chance to give proof of what metal he is made. He went to Spain at Spain's request. He is not unwilling to retire if Spain wills it. But until Spain does so will it his hand, as the hand of a brave man, must remain on the plough and there must not be any looking back. In the long run the republicans must win; but Spain does not yet seem sufficiently trained to claim republican rights and enjoy republican privileges.

Another Atlantic Cable—The Projected Line from Lisbon to Brazil.

A convention has been signed between the Maintenance and Construction Company of Great Britain and the government of Portugal for the laying of a telegraphic cable from Lisbon, by way of the Madeira and Cape Verde Islands, to Brazil. This is a great undertaking; but the company indicated is a strong one, and will doubtless carry the enterprise expeditiously through. Between Lisbon and the nearest point on the coast of Brazil, Cape St. Roque, by the route designated, the distance is some three thousand five hundred miles, in a southwesterly direction. For the first two thousand miles, by the Madeira, Canary and Cape Verde islands, the line, a few hundred miles distant, will run parallel with the west coast of Africa. The Cape Verde Islands are within two days by steam from the British settlement of Sierra Leone and our neighboring African republic of Liberia. From Sierra Leone, across the Atlantic to Cape St. Roque, in Brazil, the distance is nearly the same as from the most southerly of the Cape Verde islands, about fifteen hundred miles. But on the route between these islands and Cape St. Roque are first, the little island of St. Paul, and then, within two hundred miles of said cape, is the little island of Fernando Noronha; so that, from these convenient stations, *en route*, no single stretch of the cable between Lisbon and Brazil exceeding eight hundred miles will be required.

The advantages offered to the company and to Great Britain and its nation of shopkeepers, from the laying of this cable, are broadly suggested in the immense and constantly increasing trade between Brazil, the Argentine and other South American States, on the one hand, and England on the other. The facilities which the cable will afford in the timing of exchanges and shipments of goods need not be mentioned. This cable will unquestionably operate to systematize and extend in every direction the commercial exchanges of England with the South American States. And again, this line from the Cape Verde Islands will contribute its advantages to the British establishment at Sierra Leone, and to its railway intended to capture the great interior trade of Timbuctoo, and to the various other English commercial enterprises afoot in equatorial Africa. Nay, the conveniences of this cable will be felt at the Cape of Good Hope and will thence extend to the new and prosperous British colony of the African diamond fields.

The advantages suggested to the United States from this cable are of a secondary character; but still we shall not be losers by it unless our commercial people choose to lag behind hereafter as they have done heretofore in the competition for the illimitable traffic of South America. Some two or three years ago a charter was secured in which we believe the company named at the head of this article are interested, for the laying a cable between Lisbon, by way of the Azores Islands, to New York or some other point on our seacoast, and the company concerned have the authority from Congress to land on our seaboard where they may please. If we get this cable laid we shall, in connection with this line between Lisbon and Brazil, not only cease to be dependent upon England for all our cable communications with the Old World, but we shall have a cable connection with Brazil almost as handy as a line by way of Cuba and the chain of the West Indies direct to the mouth of the Amazon. At all events, we hope that this Lisbon and Brazilian line will speedily be laid, because, when laid, it must inevitably operate to the establishment of a system of cable connections on our part with South America which will be needed to give us anything like a foothold against England in the contest for the rich traffic and boundless commercial resources of the South American States.

A BIG "WASH," BUT A SMALL "HANG OUT."—The labor reform exhibit in the late Connecticut election reminds one of the conversation between two neighborly gossips, Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Jones. Mrs. Smith was complaining of her heavy work on wash days; there were such a great number of articles to be washed, rinsed, wrung out and hung up. Mrs. Jones, who had ample opportunities of examining the clotheslines of her neighbor, quietly remarked:—"Mrs. Smith, don't you think that with your very heavy wash you have a very small 'hang out?'" So with the Connecticut, as well as with the New Hampshire labor reformers, with all their boasting they make a poor exhibit when the time comes to show their strength.

Personal Intelligence.

State Senator Thomas Elmes, of Connecticut, is stopping at the Albemarle Hotel.

C. J. Bonaparte, of Baltimore, has arrived at the New York Hotel.

General Abercrombie, of the United States Army, has taken quarters at the Astor House.

Governor Samuel Merritt, of Iowa, is at the St. Nicholas Hotel.

Ex-Governor L. Fairchild and General George C. Ginty, of Wisconsin, have quarters at the Hoffman House.

Judge Charles S. Lester, of Saratoga, is stopping at the Gilsey House.

James Crowley is registered as from the Amoor River, Siberia, at the Astor House.

Mr. James Price, Treasurer of the Great Western Railroad of Canada, is sojourning at the Brevoort House.

George W. Childs, of the Philadelphia *Ledger*, and A. J. Drexel, the banker, are at the Fifth Avenue Hotel. They came on yesterday morning to be present at the departure of ex-Secretary Borie for Europe.

Professor Pierce, Chief of the United States Coast Survey, is at the Brevoort House. The Professor is one of the Commissioners lately appointed to consider the results of the surveys of the different expeditions to the Isthmus of Darien and report which route they believe to be best for the projected interoceanic canal.

Buffalo Bill, the dashing chevalier of the Plains, set out from Fort McPherson on the 29th ult., having in charge a large quantity of rations and forty ponies as a present from the government to sustain the band of Spotted Tail and enable it to return to its agency.

Colonel Gowan, who is registered at the Fifth Avenue Hotel as from Washington, is among the most successful engineers of the age. Some years ago he undertook to, and did, raise entire, the Russian war vessels that had been sunk during the Crimean war to obstruct the harbor of Sebastopol. To do this had been pronounced impossible by many skilful engineers, and Colonel Gowan's success therefore gained for him much renown.

President Grant and General Horace Porter arrived at the Fifth Avenue Hotel yesterday morning. They returned to Washington in the evening, after having witnessed the departure of ex-Secretary Borie and wife and Miss Nellie Grant for Europe.

BON VOYAGE.

Departure of Mr. and Mrs. Borie and Miss Nellie Grant for Europe.

Punctually at two P. M. yesterday the Cunard steamer Algeria got under weigh and proceeded down the bay *en route* for Liverpool. Aboard of her were President and Mrs. Grant and a large party of friends, who had assembled for the purpose of bidding *bon voyage* to ex-Secretary Borie and lady, who, in company with Miss Nellie Grant, the President's eldest daughter, are going to make an extensive tour through Europe. The Algeria presented a very gay appearance, having been dressed with flags for the occasion. The steamer Andrew Fletcher accompanied her down the bay and re-landed the party of visitors after the "Cunarder" had passed through the Narrows.

THE WEATHER.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
WASHINGTON, D. C., April 4—1 A. M.

Synopsis for the Past Twenty-four Hours.

Rising barometer has extended from the upper lakes southward over the Missouri and Ohio valleys and Middle and New England States, with northerly winds, falling temperature, with clear and clearing weather. Cloudy weather continues over the Southern States very generally, with rain over North Carolina, Eastern Tennessee and Florida.

Probabilities.

Rising barometer will continue extending southward over the Southern States, and southeastward over the Middle and New England States on Thursday. Clear weather will prevail very generally by Thursday morning from Kentucky and Missouri northward and eastward, with northerly winds over the Middle and New England States to easterly over and west of the Upper Mississippi. Clearing weather is probable for the Southern States on Thursday, with northerly winds over the South Atlantic States to easterly over the Western Gulf States. Dangerous winds are not anticipated.